



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Peter van Dalen

Examiner: Yves Dalencourt

Serial No.: 10/070,497

Group Art Unit: 2157

Filed: March 7, 2002

Title: METHOD FOR E-MAIL COMMUNICATION, APPARATUS THEREFOR AND
USE OF SAID METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC METERING
AND FOR HOME AUTOMATION

REPLY

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

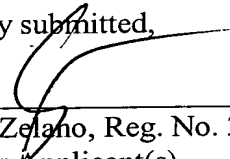
Sir:

Responsive to the office action of December 1, 2005, applicants hereby elect group I as defined on page 2 of the office action, with traverse.

The examiner indicates that a full examination of all four groups would require only the searching of three additional subclasses, one per additional group. This does not constitute an undue searching burden which would justify the restriction requirement. Thus, the restriction requirement fails to comply with the rules and the MPEP. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all claims should be examined.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney Docket No.: DCLERC-0003

Date: December 15, 2005

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